

I claim:

1. A method, comprising:

- a) instantiating a server object corresponding to a set of building control system (BCS) values;
- b) receiving an update request associated with the server object;
- c) holding the update request open until a change in at least one of the set of BCS values is acknowledged in the server object.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the server object is a DCOM object.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein step c) further comprises releasing the update request if a predetermined amount of time expires.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein step b) comprises receiving an update request from a requesting server and wherein the predetermined period of time is less than a time out period of the requesting server.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising d) providing a changed value of the set of BCS values to a requesting server.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising d) providing a changed value of the set of BCS values to a requesting web server.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising e) generating a file to be transmitted over the Internet, the file including data representative of the changed value.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein step e) further comprises generating the file to be transmitted as an extended markup language file.
9. A method, comprising:
  - a) instantiating a server object on a data server corresponding to a set of building control system (BCS) values;
  - b) generating in a web server a data request associated with the server object;
  - c) providing the data request to the data server;
  - d) providing a response to the data request if a change in at least one of the set of BCS values is acknowledged in the server object;
  - e) holding the data request open and repeating step d) if no change in at least one of the set of BCS values is acknowledged and a predetermined time period has not elapsed since the data request was provided to the data server.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the server object is a DCOM object.
11. The method of claim 9, wherein step e) further comprises releasing the data request if the predetermined amount of time has elapsed.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the predetermined period of time is less than a time out period of the web server.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein step d) further comprises providing a changed value of the set of BCS values to the requesting server in the response.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising f) generating in the web server a file to be transmitted over the Internet, the file including data representative of the changed value.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein step f) further comprises generating the file to be transmitted as an extended markup language file.

16. A method, comprising:

- a) receiving at least one interpreted software program over the Internet using a web-browser;
- b) executing at least one interpreted software program to display at least a first graphical element representative of building control system information, the first graphical element having a fixed element and a variable element, the variable element representative of a first building control system value;
- c) executing at least one interpreted software program to generate a request for updated values, the request configured to cause a web server to generate server request to a data server, the generated server request configured to cause the data server to hold the

server request open until a change in at least one of the set of building control system values is acknowledged in the server object and to provide to the web server a response to the server request including data representative of the acknowledged change, the request further configured to cause the web server to return at least a second value over the Internet responsive to the request, the second value comprising non-graphical information based on the data in the response to the server request; and

d) executing at least one interpreted software program to display the first graphical element such that the variable element is representative of the second value.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein at least one interpreted software program is written in the Java programming language.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein the second value is transported in a mark-up language document.

19. The method of claim 16 wherein the second value is transported in an extensible mark-up language document.

20. The method of claim 16, wherein the generated server request is further configured to cause the data server to release the server request if a predetermined amount of time expires.